

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 04060 111617Z

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ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7194

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, OCON, YO

SUBJECT: STRUCTURED LABOR MISSION 1973

REF: BELGRADE 3968

1. 1. EMBOFF SAW ASSISTANT LABOR SECRETARY FRANIC SEPTEMBER 11 TO DISCUSS STRUCTURED LABOR MISSION DEVELOPMENTS AND EXPRESS DISAPPOINTMENT OVER SERBIAN WITHDRAWAL. WE ALSO TRIED TO DRAW FANIC OUT ON PROSPECTS THAT REMAINING SEMINAR HOSTS (VOJVODINA, KOSOVO, MACEDONIA AND BOSNIA) WOULD STAY FIRM.

2. FRANIC PREDICTABLY REFUSED TO GIVE HIS OPINION WHETHER FOUR REMAINING HOSTS WOULD IKMOIR JW ERARWP THEIR SPONSORSHIP OF SEMINAR. HE DID SAY THAT ALL FOUR HAD SAME REQUIRE-

MENTS TO REORGANIZE AND REVISE LABOR STATUTES TO CONFORM TO CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS AS SERBIA, SLOVENIA AND CROATIA. HE COULD GIVE NO GUARANTEE THAT THEY WOULD NOT WITHDRAW.

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PAGE 02 BELGRA 04060 111617Z

3. COMMENT. FRANIC WAS CAREFUL NOT TO GIVE COUP DE GRACE

TO SEMINAR, AND THEREBY PUT ONUS FOR CANCELLATION ON FEDERAL
LABOR SECRETARIAT. NEVERTHELESS, HIS DISINCLINATION TO
PROVIDE FEDERAL-LEVEL ASSURANCE THAT REMAINING FOUR REPUBLICS/
PROVINCES WOULD CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE FOLLOWING WITHDRAWALS
OF OTHERS LEADS EMBASSY TO RELUCTANT CONCLUSION THAT YUGOSLAVS
ARE NOT VITALLY INTERESTED IN SEEING STRUCTURED LABOR SEMINAR
TAKE PLACE IN OCTOBER. GIVEN YUGOSLAV DISINTEREST AND COST
INVOLVED, EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT SEMINAR PLANS BE CANCELLED FOR
1973 AND THAT WE TRY AGAIN IN 1974.

4. PLEASE ADVISE.

TOON

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